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REMARKS

The present amendment is intended to replace the previous amendment mailed 3/3/04. Claims 1-17 were pending. Of these, claims 2, 3, and 6-11 have been canceled without prejudice.

As discussed in a recent telephone conference with the Examiner, claim 1 has been amended by including features of claim 6 and claim 11 and the Examiner indicated that claim 1 would then be in condition for allowance. Claim 4 and 5, dependent on claim 1 should also be allowable.

Claim 12 had been indicated allowable if rewritten to include limitations of parent claims. The subject matter of claims 6 and 11, on which claim 12 depended, have been included in amended claim 12. The only changes made were to clarify the recitation of the means, namely, claim element f) of claim 6 has been identified as the "second" means, and the means in claim 11 for adjusting the impact force has been identified as the "third" means, and the latter means for axially adjusting the length of the spring has been identified as the "fourth" means.

Similar changes have been made in claims 14 and 16 also indicated allowable.

Thus in amended claim 14, the "fourth" has been changed to "third" means because there was no "third" means in claim 6 on which it depended.

And, in amended claim 15, the "fifth" has been changed to "third" means because there was no "third" or "fourth" means in claim 6 on which it depended.

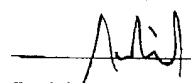
Thus, claims 12-16 should be allowable.

Claim 17, previously dependent on claim 6 and rejected, has been amended to depend from allowable claim 15 and thus should also be allowable.

An early allowance of the case is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted

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4/ 6/04